

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND BUSINESS

Beth Verhey, UNICEF

Roundtable Human Rights in Tourism
Frankfurt Conference, June 2017

Business interacts with
children on a daily basis

Business impacts the wide range of
children's rights –beyond child labour

Business has a responsibility to
respect children's rights

Government has a duty to
protect children

Business can act as champions for
children's rights

BUSINESS RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

In Products, Facilities, Properties, Conduct or Operational Context

For Example...



One-third of the world's children have internet access

ICT companies are central to child protection

Prevent and address CSAM, bullying, grooming, safeguarding concerns, and inappropriate marketing



The first 1,000 days are crucial to a child's future –

And depends on their working parent(s)

As the world's biggest employer, expanded decent work measures are critical to ECD outcomes

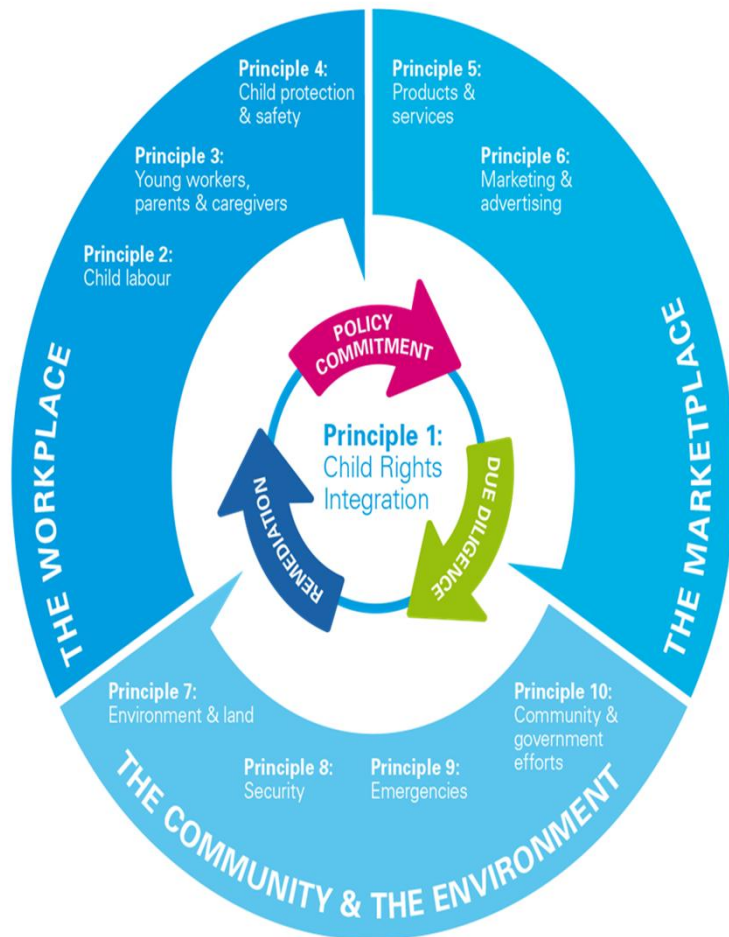


790 million people are without access to safe water -- one of the most significant underlying factors in diseases causing childhood deaths and developmental delays.

Managing these impacts requires an approach integrated with local services.



Child Rights Findings in Human Rights Impact Assessments

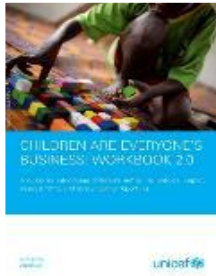


Some highlights:

- Wages and decent work provisions; child care and maternity challenges; especially for women, migrating workforces
- Opportunities for young workers
- Child labour and abuse in value chains
- Staff conduct and child safeguards as well as efforts on sexual exploitation
- Tourism products that facilitate child rights
- Land acquisition, construction and development phases
- Water and sanitation; the environment and other basic services

UNICEF TOOLS TO INTEGRATE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN BUSINESS DUE DILIGENCE

Workbook
Summarizes the guidance in the UNICEF tools.

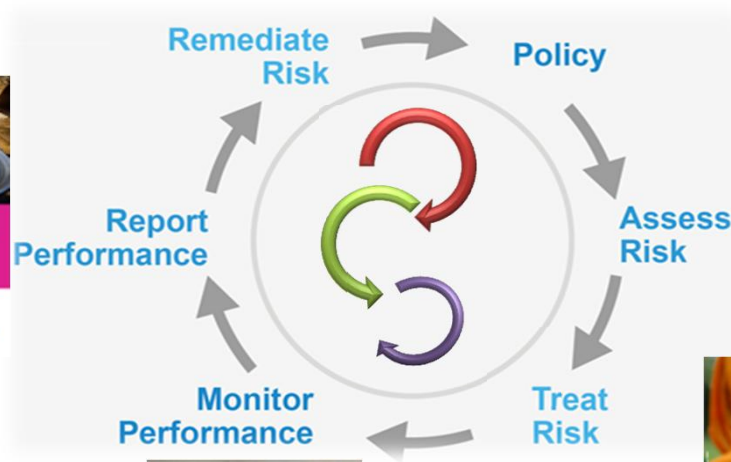


Policy commitment
Incorporating human rights into company policies and codes of conduct

Risk Identification
Children's Rights and Business Atlas



Reporting
Reporting on Performance (GRI standards)



Impact Assessment
Assessing performance and identifying actions for improvement



Engaging Children as Stakeholders
Engaging stakeholders on children's rights



THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (2011)

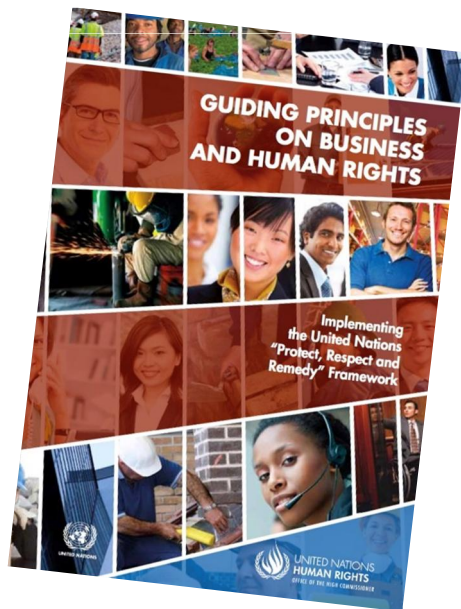
UNGPs 18

Responsibility

- **Identify and assess any actual or potential adverse human rights impacts;**
 - involving **external human rights expertise**
 - meaningful consultation with **relevant stakeholders**, including children

Human Rights Due Diligence

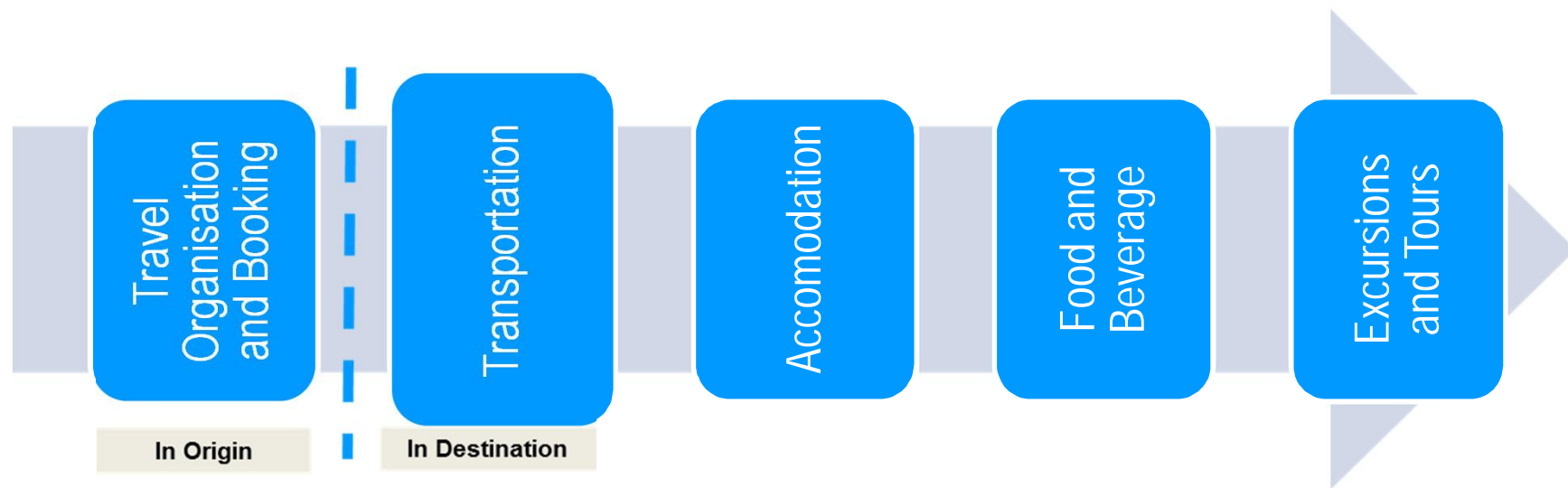
- Assessing the **human rights context**
- Projecting how the proposed activity and associated business relationships could have **adverse human rights impacts**



Ensuring Child Rights in Human Rights Impact Assessments

How -- Applying the UNGP and CRBP

- Ø Assess the context, including human/child rights issues and projecting how business relationships could have adverse impacts
- Ø Draw on human rights expertise
- Ø Involve meaningful consultation with potentially affected groups and other stakeholders – INCLUDING CHILDREN; also engages local stakeholders for follow up
- Ø Value Chain Analysis with perspective to mitigation measures





THANK YOU

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